

14**Synthesizing Information**

Review **Synthesizing** involves taking individual pieces of information and combining them with other pieces of information and/or prior knowledge to gain a better understanding of a subject or to create a new product or idea.

Directions: First **read** the passages. Then **answer** the items that follow.

The humble paper clip has a proud history in Norway as a symbol of resistance. After Nazi Germans invaded Norway in 1940, they would not allow citizens to wear badges that displayed national symbols. In place of the badges, defiant Norwegians wore paper clips.

Sixty ninth-graders at a Utah junior high school put together a paper clip chain in 2004 measuring 22.17 miles, using 1,560,377 paperclips. The “chain gang” set a new world’s record. Johan Vaaler has left his mark on the tops of millions of desks around the world for well over a century.

No, he’s not an extremely busy graffiti artist. Vaaler, a Norwegian, invented the paperclip in 1899. His native country did not have a patent office, so Vaaler registered his gizmo in Germany. It was identified as a “rectangular, triangular, or otherwise shaped hoop.”

1. Briefly paraphrase the main idea in each passage.

2. What do the three passages have in common?

3. Complete this thought: Reading these passages, I have learned the following:
